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STATIONS IN EGYPT: Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, Port-Said, Port-Saïd, Suez, Head Office, London.

No. 7,206

ALEXANDRIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1905

(EIGHT PAGES P.T. 1.)

Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Company.

Summer Rates will be charged from 2 May to 31 October.

For the convenience of families and others, a large portion of each ship's accommodation has been reserved for Egypt, so that Berths can be definitely engaged at once, as the voyage was commencing at Port Said. Plans can be seen at the Office of the Company's Agents.

The through Steamers for Marseilles and London are intended to leave Port Said after the arrival of the 11 a.m. train from Cairo, every Monday until June, and then every Tuesday. A steam tender will meet the train to convey passengers to the ship.

The British Express Steamers leave Port Said directly to the Indian Mails arrive. Passengers can go on board the evening before. The Fare remains as usual.

For further information apply to the Company's Agents, Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son (Egypt) Ltd., CAIRO, PORT SAID, ALEXANDRIA, SUEZ, HAMBURG & CO., ALEXANDRIA, F. G. HANSEN, Superintendent F. & O. S. N. Company in Egypt.

Orient-Pacific Line of Royal Mail Steamers.

REDUCED SUMMER FARES FROM MAY TO OCTOBER INCLUSIVE.

OUTWARDS TO ALEXANDRIA.

S.S. "Orion" will leave Port Said on June 2.

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NOTES FROM PORT SAID.

EGYPTIAN JOURNALISM.

JEROME HART IN THE
"SAN FRANCISCO ARGONAUT."

The newspapers of Egypt are not very daring beasts. Possibly they are not, and grow up with something to do with this timidly. Most American newspapers, like *the Times*, "just grow up," the Egyptian newspapers seem to have been brought up by hand. This winter, the death of Hailakia Pasha, founder of *the Akhbar*, brought forth in all the papers some columns of reminiscence concerning the deceased editor—all of most kindly nature. They all agreed on one point—that Hailakia Pasha had founded his paper simply and solely because Khedive Ismail paid him for that purpose "an annual subsidy of £7,000." There was no matter of the "communist" had perhaps a slight tinge of irony—that was all. It was entirely the highest opinion of the scribbles of Egypt the jingling of the gonges heard the best horn of Hailakia Pasha. This subsidy he received for many years, but when the subsidies of the Khedive ceased to have weight Hailakia Pasha was told that he would have to run his paper without a subsidy. Confronted with this direful loss—measured with the terrible task of meeting his expenditure with his scribbles—that did Hailakia Pasha do!

He ran his paper straight.

Probably this was the first time it was attempted in Egypt. The other papers looked on with awe and admiration. All of the editorial fraternity expressed the highest opinion of his nerve and pluck. One paper said he "lost several thousand pounds the first year." In fact, all spoke of Hailakia Pasha's continuing to run an old-established paper after the cessation of the subsidy, the tone of admiring deprecation that we in America would adopt in speaking of the dastardly editor who would attempt to run a religious and temperance daily in any large American city.

With these traditions clinging to the Egyptian press, it is easy to understand that the Egyptian editors speak rather guardedly, not only of persons in power, but of the great and important men of the day. Their caution is so extreme, however, that at times it grows very dull. As I have said, they are cautious even in talking about the weather, that not-committal topic so dear to us all; for in Egypt it is possible for a newspaper to figure itself with the great hotel-keepers and the rich shop-keepers by talking too freely about the weather when it is bad in Egypt the weather during the past winter has been by no means all that the tourists' daily painted it.

It is not only concerning subsidies that the Egyptian newspapers from the American newspaper point of view, seem rather odd. I am speaking only of those printed in English and French; there are many journals printed in Arabic, but I know nothing of them. The newspapers published in European languages are mainly remarkable for excluding anything that could offend anyone. Not only do they avoid the weather, but other topics as well. As they depend largely for their income on the advertisements of a limited number of large hotel companies and business houses, they naturally feel it difficult to print any negative remarks concerning them. Therefore they adopt the simple expedient of printing disagreeable personal news in a cryptic fashion without any names. Here is a sample item:

MURDER AND DEATH.—Yesterday afternoon a clerk who is very well known in England and France, employed of a prominent merchant, committed suicide in the merchant's office by blowing out his brains with a revolver. His face was much disfigured.

Heavens over the pericarditis of those in high station is, of course, not followed by the papers in discussing the misdoings of the holy. But the editorial habit is hard to lay aside and the cry of the populace are told with a heavy hand is starting.

The following paragraphs (grouped under "Tahat Notes") from a Cairo paper are certainly remarkable:

"Tahat Notes."—At Tahat yesterday, George Kaitchopoulos returned home unexpectedly to his wife and her person, and chopped both their heads off with an axe.

"The Tahat authorities are enforcing the code of contraventions against women who walk the streets."

"After next Wednesday at Tahat overseas dogs will be shot by the police."

The same brevity is extended to items not in the line of contraventions, such as the following:

MURDER AND ROBBERY.—Madame Gail and Madame Bousin were murdered by five riflemen the night before last at Zagazig. The object was plunder. The murders were reported.

Here is an excellent four-column story for an American daily told in four lines:

GIRL BOY FORTUNE.—Yesterday the body of a young native girl, daughter of Hassan Ali, was found floating in the Mediterranean. Her parents say it was not suicide, as her rings had been torn from her ears.

The arrival of the famous squadron that went around the sea "last" winter, was thus briefly chronicled:

BRITISH FLEET.—The division of the Baltic fleet commanded by Admiral Botovsky arrived at Port Said yesterday afternoon at two thirty, and left this morning.

A fire in the largest mercantile house in Egypt is thus set down:

BY FIRE.—The enormous Walker-Mannesh stores were destroyed by fire yesterday. Two firemen were killed and many injured. Loss £20,000.

Imagine an American daily deriving a few

lines only to a fatal fire involving the loss of a quarter of a million. Really, Egypt is not the place for a leading American daily editor to visit. To read such items as these and to think of the columns of "stories" and the acres of pictures they would make in America would drive such an editor into a highly nervous condition.

But let us present a few more of these startling items told in this matter-of-fact way:

THE MEXICO PILGRIMS.—Over three thousand persons have arrived since Wednesday from Mexico, Moravia, and Guanajuato, en route to Mecca. Near Djiddah the last lot of pilgrims found a formidable force of Bedouins awaiting them for plunder. After the fight the pilgrims withdrew, leaving fifty-two of their number dead on the field.

This mild paragraph is calculated to give travellers pause.

AMPHIBIOUS TOURISTS.—A party of twenty tourists went to Sakkara on Monday. The guardian of the ruins refused to accept their tickets of admission. A heated debate followed, which was adjourned to Marietta's house. No satisfaction followed. On emerging the tourists found a horde of threatening Arabs waiting. Their donkeys and camels were driven round neutral, and the tourists fled a shower of stones. Some were seriously injured. The tourists were much annoyed.

Here is another ill-sorted husband who settles disputes with murder:

KILLED HIS WIFE.—A public scrivener, a native, living at Gabbari, had a conjugal dispute with his wife which ended by his striking her over the head with an iron bar, killing her instantly. He fled and has not been seen since.

The incidental way in which the robbery of \$40,000 is just alluded to at the end of this paragraph is altogether delicious:

The Mahmal (Holy Carpet) sailed from Suez this afternoon for Jeddah on its way to Mecca.

"A theft of \$8,000 took place from the Mahmal train at Assiut. All search for the culprits has proved fruitless."

By committing suicide this young gentleman may have saved himself from committing suicide:

SUICIDE.—A young native gentleman of Cairo committed suicide yesterday in order to avoid contracting a marriage which his family was bent upon.

This paragraph is not without singular phases:

TAILORS ATTACK CAFE.—Yesterday three British tailors refused to pay their bill for "hair and beard" at the Café du Phara, Alexandria. When Cesare Giolitti, the café-keeper, attempted to force them they assaulted him and his Arab waiter, beat them severely, smashed chairs and tables, and wrecked the café.

I had never associated such wild and reckless behavior with the manner of the tailors who said the shavers and grooms. Therefore it was with a distinct shock that I read of some tailors—even British tailors—cleaning out a café and beating the waiter.

I could readily understand it if done by British lords or British navies. But British tailors!—it seemed incredible. Only the close of the item made me comprehend it—the tailors were sailors.

During the winter, just past (some like this) was by no means rare in the Cairo papers:

BURNED TO DEATH.—Yesterday a native, Hassan Yassouf, was warning himself at a small fire he had made in the street, when his clothing caught fire, and, despite his frantic efforts, he was burned to death.

It should be so cold in Cairo as to cause the natives to make fire in the street may surprise many. It is a very common belief that the Egyptian winter is always hot. True, it is often hot during the winter in Lower Egypt, but it is not so frequently cold, and sometimes bitterly cold. The winter traveler takes with him at all times and everywhere, in summer and in winter, both light and heavy clothing. He will find use for both during the Egyptian winter.

The first time I visited Egypt I shared the common delusion concerning the Egyptian winter. I went to see what was said at Alexandria; but when we sat in the car, I had, and took with me a palm leaf fan and a Panama straw hat. At the last moment some faint gleam of leucidity pierced my darkened brain, and I took with me a railway rug. This, however, was scarcely necessary—it was probably automatic. "Railway" rug, going rail—take rug. It was fortunate for me that I did so, for I verily believe that without it I would have frozen to death. The cold was so severe that I had to be considered exaggeration, but I add that this winter a train broke down between Alexandria and Cairo; that no relief train was sent out; that the passengers, who were all the more helpless in this sleeping-car; that the price rose from two pence to one hundred pence per blanket; and that when morning brought a train along two or three of the richest men were wrapped in all of the blankets, and the rest of the passengers had to be thawed out by exhaust steam from the engine. Seriously, the poor wretches when found were stiff with cold and many of them were made seriously ill.

Anglo-American Nite Steamer.
HOTEL COMPANY.

OVER TRAMPOLE OF GOOD BETWEEN ALEXANDRIA & GIZA.
Three Sailings a Week.

Agents at Alexandria:—
ALEXANDRIA BORDER WAREHOUSE CO. L.

110-110.

110-110.

110-110.

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THE CHEMIST IN CAIRO.

BY HORACE WYNDHAM.

The Arabic word for chemist is "hakim," although it is more generally applied to a doctor. The vociferous is in Egypt one of considerable antiquity. It dates, indeed, from Biblical times, as is proved by hieroglyphics that have been discovered showing the practitioners at work. These early chemists, however, were very much what we should nowadays term barbers, and combined dentistry with drug dealing. Every tribe had its own "hakim," the calling being handed down from father to son, much as is the case in India to the present day.

The methods employed by their descendants are almost identical with those first adopted, and as a natural consequence, they are scarcely up to date. Among the European chemists, however, doing business in such large centers as Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, etc., there is not much to complain of on this account, for the great majority of the practitioners at these places are fully qualified men. Many of them hold London diplomas, while others have French, German, or Italian ones. The native houses, too, are with certain exceptions well conducted.

The European chemists in Cairo are of all nationalities—English, French, German, and Italian are prevailing. There are also a few Levantines—chiefly Turks and Greeks—engaged in the business. These latter, however, minister for the most part to the requirements of the native population, and have their own premises in the Moslem (Arab) quarters. This is an overcrowded and evil-smelling district in the eastern part of the town. It is a good trade centre, however, as, on account of the numerous mosques, bazars, and numerous other public buildings, it is much resorted to by night-sight-seekers.

With regard to the best class of chemists' establishments—i.e., those kept by Europeans—there is all to be found in the vicinity of the Khedivial Palace. They are situated either in the Shafia Kandel Pasha, or the Place de l'Or, the chief commercial quarters of Cairo. The principal among them are the New English Dispensary, the Anglo-American Pharmacy, and the London Pharmacy. In the pages of the plain-speak "Buckley" attention is drawn to the high charges that some of them impose. This complaint is a well-founded one, for the work is in many cases quite excessive. With regard to proprietary articles this is especially marked; a shilling, for example, is quite a common price to demand for a sixpenny cake of "Pearl" soap; while pills and tooth powders are all sold at something like 50% per cent. above their face value. There is no real reason for this as the import duties are quite trifling. A little healthy competition is badly wanted. It would also be good for trade generally, since the best of native work finds its way to the winter as in the habit of bringing supplies of medicine with them. If they could depend on obtaining what they required at a moderate cost, however, they would undoubtedly attract the local firms to a greater extent than they seem inclined to do at present.

A good many of the chemists in Cairo do a brisk business in the sale of photographic goods, and the preparation of amateur's negatives. Every camera holder has a matter of course a camera among his equipment, and it is not happy until he has snapped the Pyramids and the Sphinx. These works of art then have to be developed, and the chemist who is not above doing such work finds it highly remunerative. As the customary charge is something like a shilling per film this is not to be wondered at. Another source of profit is derived from the sale of cameras and accessories. Here, again, the rate is very high. The theory that these goods are sold at the same price all over the world does not apply to Egypt.

In many places abroad, dentistry is often combined with drug-dealing in Cairo; at any rate, some of the "Frankish" drug-pullers, "dentists," is quite a common inscription to be seen in the shop windows of the European chemists. Others add dispensing, and also do a little in the way of giving medical advice. Their customers are for the most part drawn from among the Arab residents, as the average European wisely prefers to consult a properly qualified doctor when he is ill.

The European chemists do very little advertising, beyond sending out circular letters and price-lists at regular intervals to everyone included in the official directory, and also to the different hotel-managers. The greater part of their business comes to them direct from the local doctors. Of these there are a good number in Cairo and the vicinity, for the host of travellers who winter in the Egyptian capital give the medical fraternity plenty of employment. Their chief demand is for tonics and drugs calculated to build up the system, while purgatives, salines and disinfectants powders are also asked for during the hot weather. There is not much sale for cough-mixture, as the usual prescription in cases of pulmonary affections is the simple use of open air. If only the Cairo chemist could bottle this up and sell it by the ounce he would possibly realize a fortune!

A line in which a good deal of revenue is derived from the sale of the "Pearl" brand is that of toilet preparations and perfumery. There is always a large and steady demand for these, as lady-visitors find that the strong sun even in December and January plays havoc with their complexion. On the occasion of a ball at the British Agency, or a big reception at the Khedivial Palace, a tremendous demand arises for pearl powder. In connection with this it is reported that on one occasion, when an important reception function was about to take place, a certain society house created a "corner" in this commodity, with the result that it went up to famine price. In vain were heartrending appeals made for even the smallest supply at the old

The Standard Life Assurance Company.

ESTABLISHED 1860.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS £11,500,000
MONY YEAR, 1905.

THE NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS will be when average participating policies in existence at 31st December 1904. All With Profit Policies will be in a better state than at the same date in the previous year.

The Company have already drawn Additions to Profits to the amount of more than SEVEN MILLIONS STERLING.

Head Office for Egypt: Sharia Har-el-Nil, Cairo.
B. NATHAN & Co. A. V. THOMSON,
Chief Agents for Egypt.

Under this heading advertisements are inserted at the following rates:—
10 words 3/6
15 words 5/0
20 words 6/6
Every 10 words, beyond 20 2/6
The address is counted. The advertisement must appear on consecutive days for above rates to be obtained. 50% extra is charged for advertisements not appearing consecutively.

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DAVIES
BRYAN
& Co.Continental Hotel Buildings,
CAIRO.St. David's Buildings,
ALEXANDRIA.and 35-37 Noble Street
LONDON, E.C.English Tailors
Drapers
and Outfitters.

Beg respectfully to announce that they have received their various stocks in the latest styles suitable for the present season.

CLOTHES:

A large assortment of
Blacks, Blues, Scotch,
Irish & Harris Tweeds.

All garments cut by experienced English Cutters, fit and style guaranteed.

A varied stock of
Ladies' Blouses, Boas,
Skirts, Belts, &c.Careful attention is
paid to Ladies' outfits
suitable for Tours up
the Nile.GENTS'
OUTFITTING:The latest novelties in Ties,
Collars, Shirts, Gloves, &c.
Hosiery in all the newest
makes, (Camel Hair brand
a speciality).

We are also making a special display in the Drapery Department, consisting of Household Linen, Blankets, Calicoes, Eider-down Quilts, Cushions, &c., &c., which are marked at such figures as to command attention.

Boots & Shoes in the latest shapes, Bags, Trunks & all Leather goods in great variety.

Also a large assorted supply of the following articles:—
HATS, CAPS, UMBRELLAS,
WALKING-STICKS, RUBS,
STUDS, BRUSHES AND ALL
TOILET REQUISITES, &c.Davies Bryan & Co.
Cairo & Alexandria.

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